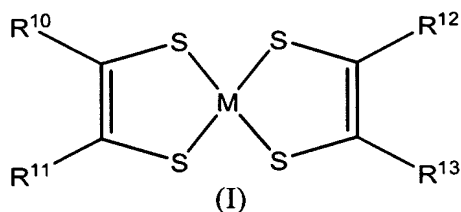


**Amendments to the Abstract:**

**The Abstract beginning at Page 49, lines 1-15, is to be amended as follows:**

**Abstract**

The present invention provides an IR-absorbing dye suitable for formulating a water-based inkjet ink, said dye being of formula (I):



wherein:

M is selected from Ni, Pd or Pt;

R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently selected from C<sub>1-30</sub> hydrocarbyl, or R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> together are joined to form a C<sub>2-30</sub> hydrocarbylene group;

R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are independently selected from C<sub>1-30</sub> hydrocarbyl, or R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> together are joined to form a C<sub>2-30</sub> hydrocarbylene group;

wherein at least one of R<sup>10</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup> or R<sup>13</sup> comprises a hydrophilic group.

Dyes of this type are especially suitable for use in ~~netpage~~ NETPAGE and Hyperlabel systems.